

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Absorbent article which ~~such as a sanitary napkin, an incontinence guard, a diaper, or a panty liner, which article~~ has a substantially elongated shape with a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction and exhibits two side edges (9, 10), a front edge (11) and a rear edge (12), a front portion (6) and a rear portion (7), and a central portion (8) situated between the front portion (6) and the rear portion (7), which article furthermore exhibits a liquid-pervious cover layer (2) and a liquid-impervious cover layer (3) and an absorbent body (4), characterized in that the rear portion (7) of the absorbent body (4) comprises a layer (17) that is split in a first leg (15) and a second leg (16) with a gap between the legs (15, 16) where an angle  $\alpha$  is defined between the first leg (15) and the second leg (16), and that an elastic member (19) is placed between the first leg (15) and the second leg (16), which elastic member (19) essentially extends in the longitudinal direction.

2. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 1, characterized in that the elastic member (19) bends the

rear portion (7) in a somewhat parabolic shape, deforming parts of the absorbent article that lies between the first leg (15) and (16), thereby forming a ~~ridge-like elevation~~ (20) between the first leg (15) and the second leg (16).

3. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the elastic member runs ~~mainly~~ along a centre line (23) of the absorbent article, from a point in the vicinity of where the centre line (23) meets the rear edge (12), to a point beyond the point where the layer (17) in the absorbent body (4) is split into the two legs (15, 16).

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4. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the elastic member (19) runs ~~mainly~~ along the centre line (23), through the entire absorbent article.

5. (original) Absorbent article according to claim 4, characterized in that the elastic member (19) is split into at least two elastic parts in the front portion (6).

6. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the elastic member (19) ~~may be~~ is placed in any of the layers that builds the absorbent article (1).

7. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the angle  $[[a]] \alpha$  is between 10°-120° ~~100-1200, preferably 150-400~~.

8. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the length of the legs (15, 16) is 20-350 mm, ~~preferably 50-150 mm.~~

9. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the length of the ridge-like elevation (20) is at least 10 mm.

10. (currently amended) Absorbent article according to claim 2, characterized in that the ridge like-elevation has a top portion constituting an upper part of the ridge like-elevation and that the width of the ridge-like-elevation (20) is 0.1-20 mm, ~~preferably 1-8 mm,~~ at the top portion of the ridge-like-elevation (20).

11. (new) Absorbent article according to claim 1, characterized in that the elastic member (19) is attached to the article in a stretched state.

12. (new) Absorbent article according to claim 1, characterized in that the elastic member is in the form of a band or thread.